

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Status of Claims:

Claims 2-6, 8-12 and 14-18 are currently being cancelled.

Claims 1, 7 and 13 are currently being amended.

No claims are currently being added.

This amendment amends and cancels claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending and canceling the claims as set forth above, claims 1, 7 and 13 are now pending in this application.

Claim Rejections – Prior Art:

In the Office Action, claims 1-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,332,170 to Ban. This rejection is traversed with respect to presently pending independent claims 1, 7 and 13, for at least the reasons given below.

The present application is directed to an "image forming device and the method of controlling the same that is designed so as to be able to effectively deal with the special print jobs using the tabbed paper and the like, by making it possible to implement, concerning, for example, the printing on the tabbed paper, which can be failed more easily comparing with the printing on the regular paper due to the factors such as a jam or printing position adjustment, the trial printing only on the tabbed paper since damage of failure of the printing can be mitigated." See page 37, line 21 to page 38, line 5 of the specification.

In contrast, Ban is directed to provide a "printing environment, in which the user can obtain prints of special print jobs without stagnation of ordinary print jobs which otherwise might be caused by the loading of a special print job requiring manual sheet feed or sheet change. A controller for managing the print job schedule is operated in such a manner that print jobs J1 designating ordinary paper are routinely carried out in priority over print jobs J2 requiring special paper. Upon instruction from an operation input unit, at least one of the

previously-located print jobs J2 requiring special paper is carried out in priority over the print jobs J1 designating ordinary paper." See the Abstract of Ban.

In other words, the present invention is directed to perform test printing for tabbed paper, whereas the subject matter of Ban is to perform schedule management of print jobs. The subject matter of the present invention differs fundamentally from that of Ban, whereby Ban does not disclose many of the features of the presently claimed invention, including the way for coping with paper jamming, the way for making print position adjustment, and the way for printing tabbed paper (which is harder to print than ordinary paper).

In particular, Ban does not disclose or suggest a controlling module that includes a first discrimination module, a second discrimination module, and a third discrimination module, as specifically recited in presently pending independent claim 1 (whereby similar features exist in presently pending independent claims 7 and 13).

Because of the presently claimed features, there is provided "an image forming device and a method of controlling the same that is designed so as to be able to effectively deal with the special print jobs using the tabbed paper and the like, by making it possible to implement, concerning, for example, the printing on the tabbed paper, which can be failed more easily comparing with the printing on the regular paper due to the factors such as a jam or printing position adjustment, the trial printing only on the tabbed paper since damage of failure of the printing can be mitigated." See page 37, line 21 to page 38, line 5 of the specification.

Furthermore, as explained on page 13, lines 7-17 of the specification, "when the users designate that the deletion of the printing data after the printing is not allowed previously or after the printing, the implementation of all of the print jobs including the printing on the tab paper becomes possible again after only the tabbed paper is tentatively printed."

"In this manner, by implementing the print jobs including the special print jobs with the users' intervention, jams and the like are prevented from occurring so that the print jobs including the special print jobs can be effectively dealt with."

Still further, as explained on page 31, lines 8-25 of the specification, "when, for example, the special paper such as the tabbed paper used for the special print jobs is not prepared or a jam occurs during printing on the special paper, the user is attending near the image processing device 1 so that the user can deal with the trouble immediately.

Accordingly, it is efficient since a time during which the following print jobs are made to wait because lack of the paper or the jam is left unnoticed can be reduced to an extremely short time so that an operating ratio of the image processing device will be raised.

Moreover, the image processing device 1 is designed so that the print jobs including the special print jobs will be kept in its storing module 6 and the list thereof will be displayed. Therefore, the convenience can be improved since the user can implement the print jobs by going to the image processing device 1 at a proper timing."

Additionally, as explained on page 31, line 26 to page 32, line 4 of the specification, "moreover, it is also possible for the user to, when the print jobs including the special print jobs are implemented, implement the special print jobs tentatively or adjust a printing position for a tab by actually looking at the tabbed paper that is printed and output."

Thus, it is clear that Ban does not disclose or suggest the image forming device as defined in amended claim 1. For example, Ban does not disclose or suggest the following features: the controlling module (i) stores the print jobs including the print jobs for tabbed paper without immediately implementing the print jobs, (ii) causes the displaying module to display the list of the print jobs including the print jobs for tabbed paper, (iii) reads out the print jobs including the print jobs for tabbed paper from the storing module and causes the printing module to implement the print jobs, in the case where the user operates the inputting module to enter a command for implementing the print jobs including the print jobs for tabbed paper, and (iv) enables the user to execute test printing for the tabbed paper, check an actual print output on the tabbed paper, and adjust print positions relative to the tab, in the case where the user designates "NO" for deletion of the print jobs for tabbed paper by operating the inputting modules after the print jobs for tabbed paper are implemented.

Therefore, presently pending independent claim 1, as well as presently pending independent claims 7 and 13, are not anticipated by Ban.

Conclusion:

Since all of the issues raised in the Office Action have been addressed in this Amendment and Reply, Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of allowance is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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